श्री सीताराम केसरी : आप सुन तो लीजिये । आप ने क्लैरिफिकेशन की बात कही । पहले मैं ने अर्ज किया कि होम मिनिस्टर इस सिलसिले में आप से बात करना चाहते है । जब आप ने कहा कि नहीं, उनको स्टेटमेंट देने दीजिये तो मैं तत्काल वहां गया और कहा कि यहां आपको स्टेटमेंट देना होगा और उस पर क्लैरिफिकेशन होंगे । तो उन्होंने कहा कि मैं 5 बजे स्टेटमेंट दूंगा **(व्यवधान)** आप मेरी बात सुन तो लीजिये । **(व्यवधान)** आप ने एक्सप्लेनेशन मागा है । आप मेरी बात सुन तो लीजिये ।

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: Do you know the difference between 'already made a statement 'and' will make a statement'?

श्री सीताराम केसरी : मेरी बात सुन लीजिए ।

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: You said, the Home Minister will make a statement. But he has alreardy made the statement. Do you understand the difference between the two?

श्री सीता राम केसरी : आप मेरी बात सुनिये न । मैंने यह कहा कि...

श्री वीरेन्द्र वर्मा (उत्तर प्रदेश) : उपसभापति महोदय, आप देखिये प्रोसीडिंगस में कि उन्होंने क्या कहा हैं ।

You can call for the proceedings. The Minister has categorically denied that the Home Minister has made the statement in the Lok Sabha. He has categorically said that the Home Minister will make the statement at 4 P.M. in the Lok Sabha. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Sir, you yourself heard him. It is better on his part to apologise. (*Interruptions*)

श्री सीता राम केसरी : आप ने जो क्लैरिफिकेशन की बात कही उस को तो मैं भी मानता हूं ।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Mr. Jadhav please.

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: We will not allow any business to be conducted until he apologises. (*Interruptions*).

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, Mr. Bhagat, has said that he will come back. In the meantime, let us continue with the other business. (*Interruptions*). There is no point in everybody shouting at the same time. What I was trying to say was, the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, Shri Bhagat, when he left the House, said that he will return immediately. Meanwhile, the debate may continue. This is what I said. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: We will not allow. (*Interruptions*).

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: How can the House sat in a vacuum?

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: Let it be adjourned for 15 minutes then.

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: You adjourn the House for 10 minutes (*Interruptions*).

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Home Minister has come. Is the Home Minister prepared to make the statement?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): Yes, Sir, I am prepared to make a statement.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER
Development in Punjab

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): Sir, A small group of persons, styling themselves as 5-Member Panthic Committee, made

[Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao]

an announcement of so-called 'Khalistan' from the Golden Temple Complex, Amritsar yesterday. This is a grave matter. We are determined to deal with it sternly. No part of our territory will be allowed to be used for secessionist activity.

This anti-national act has already been denounced by responsible leaders and organisations of the Sikh community in the Punjab and elsewhere in India.

The Government of Punjab is pursuing firm action to deal with the situation. We are in constant touch with them. We are extending to the State Government all the assistance and support they require.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Clarifications. Mr. Dipen Ghosh.

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH (West Bengal): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, the declaration by the so-called Panthe Committee about the formation of a 'Khalistan' is fraught with dangerous consequences about our country's sovereignty, unity, integrity and communal harmony. This development enjoins upon all and every secular patriotic-minded Indian to unite and act for defeating this game of the separatists aided and abetted by the imperialists.

Sir, we have the information, you must have also seen in the papers, not only in national dailies but also the dailies which are published from abroad, that Pakistan had already declared and stated, let the 'Khalistan' Government, let independent 'Khalistan' be declared from inside the Golden Temple or from inside any place in India so that they could recognise that part and also give all help directly for the separatist activities. So, time has come to mobilise the masses to distinguish between the people who fight and who stand for the Indian unity and those who are working against it and to mobilise masses against those forces, not only identifying the forces inside the country but also the forces which are behind these elements. Sir, any further delay or dithering will take us back to the square one. Sir, you know and all of us here also know how Bhindrawale phenomenon arose. Bhindrawale was brought up by the Congress Government.

SHRI KALPNATH RAI (Uttar Pradesh): No, no. (*Interruptions*)

HON. MEMBERS: No, no.

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: (West Bengal): There is a photograph. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: What does he want to say?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): It was decided that only clarification will be asked.

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: You need not educate me, educate yourself and your people first. I know. (*Interruptions*). Do not try to educate me. (*Interruptions*). No amount of shouting from that side can bully me and force me not to speak the truth. I shall speak the truth. People know what is truth. Even the present Prime Minister, who was then the General Secdetary of the Congress (I) Party, went on record to say that Bhindranwale was not an extremist.... (*Interruptions*) that he was a religious leader. (*Interruptions*). Sir, what I want to say is....

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. When we are talking on such an important issue, actually what the nation expects is a positive contribution and a consensus of the House. I request all the Members to seek a consensus and present a view.

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: I am not going to insinuate anybody. I am only helping all to recall history.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: No, no.

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: Because we have to identify. (*Interruptions*). We have t identify the forces who are working against the sovereignty and integrity of our country. We are also to identify the weaknesses of our ruling party, the weaknesses of the Akali Party and weaknesses of other parties also. Otherwise... let me conclude, just listen please.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: One moment. Please sit down. I am on my feet. This is time exclusively for clarifications on the statement of the Home Minister. It is not the time for an elaborate debate on the policies and the subject. So please confine yourself to clarifications.

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: Sir, I admit it is time not only to seek clarifications but it is also a time to unite and act. And in order to... (*Interruptions*) What will they say? And in order to enable all patriotic forces of our country to unite and act, we must identify these elements, the forces behind them and at the same time we must also try to know the past weaknesses so that those weaknesses do not creep in in the meantime to frustrate our unity and united action. So naturally as it was the weakness of the ruling party, it was the weakness of the Akalis also, to depend on the religious appeal. The Akalis could not delink politics from the religion and socalled saying that "whoever controls the Gurdwaras controls Punjab politics." Because they could not do that, they could not delink politics from Gurudwaras, they could not establish that religion was an individual's faith and it has got nothing to do with politics. So naturally the Punjab Accord.... Sir, I am going to conclude... which was supported by all political parties....

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): Sir, he is again not confining himself to clarifications. He is going into the whole question. This is absolutely wrong. We should understand the situation and the time.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: For seeking clarifications, we allow normally five minutes to each Member. That is our usual convention. You have already exceeded that and taken almost 8 or 9 minutes. I request that you make only your points of clarification because the time has been exceeded.

SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE (West Bengal): Sir, on a point of order. It was decided by the Chairman that this is a very special occasion where a full-fledged discussion on this should take place.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: No, no.

SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE: Therefore, Sir, as you said, in place of the normal statements of the Minister the Chairman decided that after the statement of the Minister no names need be sent to the Table; he will call upon the leaders to raise the issues, to pose the problems, to associate with the sentiments of the House to declare and to indicate what may be the next step. It is in this spirit that in the morning it was decided that there will be no Special Mentions—because of such a—grave situation. Therefore, Sir, if you do not permit this to happen now you will be going against what the Chairman told us in the morning. This is my point of order to which I seek a reply from you.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I don't think a point of order is required for this. What the Chairman said was—I was also present—this is a question of national importance. I agree. When he met the party leaders he also said the party leaders will be

[Mr. Deputy Chairman]

asked to participate in this after the Minister's statement and the names of party leaders were also typed out and the list is on my table because it is not possible to allow all Members to join today and talk. So this is specifically mentioned and we all agreed. The only point is, when we agreed to discuss this issue—of such national importance—we, in the interest of the nation, expected the Minister to make a statement and the party leaders to seek their clarifications and react. But that does not mean that we go on an elaborate debate with 15 or 20 minutes for each Member. So, it is not the sense.

SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE: You yourself have expressed that it is not only clarification but you want them to react.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Looking at the importance of the issue, kindly cooperate in the House to see that the clarifications are precise, pointed and constructive.

SHRI SUSHIL CHAND MOHUNTA (Haryana): I just want to recall the word used by the Chairman. He said that after the Minister makes a statement the issue will be discussed threadbare. The exact word was "threadbare"... (*Interruptions*).

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY (Tamil Nadu): Go through the record... (*Interruptions*).

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA (Andhra Pradesh): He did not say that.

SHRI SUSHIL CHAND MOHUNTA: He used the word "threadbare."

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: He did not say that. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI JAGESH DESAI (Maharashtra): Chairman said clarifications.

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: Sir, I have already mentioned, as you have rightly suggested, that while seeking clarification it is not simply clarification sought for clarification's sake.

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Some introduction is always allowed.

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: You also said "constructive clarification." That means, now the situation has come where it is not the business of the Government or the ruling party alone to tackle the situation. It is the imperative task on the part of every patriotic Indian, secular Indian, freedom-loving Indian to unite and act. Naturally, as the Minister of Home Affairs could complete his duty or complete his task in the House, so far as his task in the House itself is concerned, by making a six-line or seven-line statement. It is all right; it is his choice, not mine. But my point is, as I have already stated—and I repeat—the time demands not only to identify the forces and elements behind them but also to identify the past weaknesses so that those weaknesses do not creep in again and disrupt the whole situation, disturb the whole situation. The Punjab Accord which we supported here helped to isolate these forces of extremism. The martyrdom of Sant Longowal and the massive electoral victory of the Akalis helped to further isolate the extremists. But neither the Akalis nor the ruling party at the Centre had drawn lessons from the situation. What did the Akalis do? The Akalis had shown their utter weakness, vacillation towards the question of tackling the extremists. They allowed them to enter the Golden Temple. They allowed them to have the right of arbitrator to run the karseva. And from there they have now declared this so-called formation of 'Khalistan'. The Centre has also dithered, the Centre also began developing cold feet towards the implementation of the Accord, and

the delay and dithering in the implementation of the Accord had added fuel to fire. So, naturally we must also recognise these weaknesses while taking a decision, Sir.

So, I want to conclude. While being alive to these weaknesses, we have to act. First of all, the situation enjoins upon the Centre also not only to take immediate action against those forces by mobilising the masses —I say by mobilising the masses— and isolating those forces from the masses but also to ensure that any further delay in the implementation of the Accord does not add fuel to the fire. So, the Chandigarh issue and the water issue have to be settled immediately. Without setting these two issues, you cannot isolate the extremist forces from the masses. You will have to do it. My suggestion is that while mobilising the masses against these forces, the Accord has also to be implemented. *Interruptions*).

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Mohanarangam please.

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: I am going to conclude.

SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH (Gujarat): You are repeatedly ignoring the requests from the Chair.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You said you were concluding, and with that sentence you concluded.

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: Let me say the concluding sentence also.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: So, I called Mr.. Mohanarangam.

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: All right: I am not going to say anything again you, Sir.

SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE: Between the two, "I am concluding" and "I have concluded", let us distinguish. *(Interruptions)*.

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: It is good that the Union Home Minister has come out with a statement to condemn this act. But at the same time I would implore upon him to mibilise the masses against these forces to identify the forces behind these elements and to isolate those forces from the masses also. The extremists and the forces who are behind them must have to be identified before the masses. You must speak truth to the people about who are behind whom, and by doing that you must mobilise the masses. We are all with you if you go to the masses, tell the truth to the masses, mobilise them against those elements and the forces behind them. Yes, we can fight these forces. It is not so difficult. We will fight.

Thank you, Sir.

SHRI R. MOHANARANGAM (Tamil Nadu): Sir, it is the beginning of the battle already declared by the so-called 'five-member' panthic Committee'. The matter was discussed with the Chief Ministers who are in Delhi now by the Prime Minister of this country, and he has asked them to take reasonable steps to curb these activities. Also this Panthic Committee has declared that a parallel government would be announced very soon and that their flag would be there on the top of the Red Fort. Not only have they mentioned that their Khalistan would be recognised by different countries in the world but they have intimated to the United Nations Organisation that they have formed a separate government. They have also intimated this to the neighbouring countries including India. That is what they have said.

But the Chief Minister of Punjab has stated, Sir, that this was an action taken by only a handful of miscreants who are occupying the Golden Temple. When it is the action taken by only the handful of miscreants, why is there hallagulla on the floor of Parliament? These are the results of so many incidents that happened in the past two or hree years. We

[Shri R. Mohanarangam]

have failed to curb the situation, we have failed to curb all the so-called groups and committees. That is the result of the so-called Committee, who not only have mentioned the name of their country, not only they have said that their flag will fly over the top of the Red Fort and also have intimated different countries of the world that they have formed a separate Government of Khalistan, but they are also going to inform the friendly country if India that they have formed Khalistan.

Before I discuss various aspects of this matter, I would like to urge on behalf of my party to the Central Government that it should curb all these activities. Of course, there was a time just twenty to twenty-five years before, around 1955 when we were Members of the Dravidan movement. As members of the Dravidan Movement we asked for a separate Dravidasthan. We had given reasons that we were responsible for creating the entire country; we were the first persons in the civilized word; we taught civilisation to the entire world. All this we put before the entire world and said we wanted a separate Dravidasthan. But after seeing the circumstances both politically and socially, we came to the conclusion that it was not good in the part of our party to fight for a separate Dravidasthan. As a man who belongs to that very party, All India Anna-DMK, I want to say that we are with the Government if at all the Government comes forward really to curb this situation. Why have they not taken adequate steps so far for the past so many years to curb all these activities? What action has been taken by the Givernment of Punjab to curb all these handful of miscreants? If there are handful of miscreants in the Golden Temple, why can't ten or fifteen military personnel go there and catch hold of these persons saying they were arresting them and that they should come out. Don't create all sorts of unnecessary complications. They can tell them like that. But they are not in a position to take action because they are not a handful of miscreants, they are supported by the foreign countries in taking this action. These foreign countries include Pakistan and the United States of America. Both these countries are responsible for creating all sorts of complications. This is not the action taken just by a handful of persons. Do you mean to say that leader of my party consisting of handful of members here can go to the Red Fort and say that he will just fix the Anna-DMK flag. This country has been taken over by the Anna-DMK or the Tamil Nadu Government. We can't say that even though we have got 25 lakh members in our State and even though we have a popular leader. Five persons cannot take this action. Five persons cannot come forward and say that we are going to announce to the entire world that we have formed a separate Government, separate flag and—I am ashamed to say—they have intimated to our country, India. When that is the action what action has been taken by the Government of India, especially after seeing this. If you don't want to tell what action the Government has taken so far before 5 O'Clock I want to know what you have discussed with the Prime Minister now. Atleast you can intimate what you have discussed with the Prime Minister and with the partymen. Unless and until you curb all such activities, the Indian Union will become the United States of India.

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: It is very unfortunate that unnecessary heat has been generated on an issue on which the whole nation is united and the whole nation should act in unison. The Panthic Committee's call for a battle for establishment of Khalistan is a challenge to the entire country. The whole nation has been challenged. However small this group may be, a challenge has

been thrown today. And the ingredients of the blueprint which was published is nothing but a call for secession and an act of treason. They said they are going to establish a parallel Government, not with its headquarters in Amritsar or Chandigarh but in Delhi with a flag on the Red Fort. They have already appealed to various countries for economic and military assistance. They also sought recognition of this so-called Government. Sir, this is a revolt by however small a group this may be; and it is against the unity and integrity of this country. It cannot be tolerated. It is nothing but antinational. This has to be resisted with all the strength at our command We may call it a desperate move by a group of people because they are stonges in the hands of some forces. But they know they are being isolated gradually in this country and as a desperate move they have resorted to this and also they are encouraged by certain elements abroad who are harbouring the so-called sikh leaders in hose countries and those sikh leaders also want to sustain the campaign abroad through these methods. This is one of the methods which they have devisited. It is very unfortunate that this call has come at time when are slightly relaxing and thinking that the situation is gradually improving in Punjab. This is a great setback to the improvement in the situation in Punjab. But there is still silver lining because all the responsible sections of the sikh community have already condemned it. This call cannot muster any support from the ordinary sikh masses. But the Punjab Government and the Union Government also must take stringent action in this regard. Mr. Barnala has already given a statement expressing his resolve to tackle the situation with firmness.

Sir, here is very clear evidence that foreign powers are behind this move and they will fully try to exploit the situation.

One more dangerous thing in the announcement is that they have warned the "opponent of "Khalistan" particularly the Hindus that their misdeeds would not be overlooked and they could be properly dealt with". This introduces a new element in the whole controversy because so far in Punjab no organised violence was committed against the Hindus. But there is a call now for violence against Hindus which threatens the communal harmony not only in the State but in the rest of the country also. The Prime Minister as already alerted the Chief Minister He spoke to htem yesterday. But it is necessary that the Government of India also must be alert so that no untoward incident takes place in any part of the country.

Sir, our party was the only party, perhaps, which opposed the Blue Star Operation at that time for valid reasons and we still hold the view that because of the failure of the Government to take timely steps, the situation became so complex that ultimately a major operation had to be resorted to. Therefore, a similar situation should not be allowed to develop now, because no second Blue Star Operation can be resorted to Once we have already wounded these susceptibilities and the sensitivities of the sikh community. We cannot go in for another operation. But there is still time to tackle the situation within reasonable limits of a law and order problem. Therefore, I plead that early steps should be taken by the Government to nib this mischief in the bud and also.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: What?

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: I leave it to the Government

SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH: Sir, they want to leave it to the Government. Then, there is a contradiction.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please don't interrupt. He will conclude. (*Interruptions*).

SOME HON. MEMBERS: What should be done?

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: You want me to state publicly as to how it should be done. If the Home Minister wants, I can give him advice.

Sir, there is also a great responsibility on the sikh masses today and their leaders. They have to rise to the occasion and they have to condemn this threat. They should not only condemn but also organise public opinion and come forward to meet the situation also.

Sir, on behalf of my party we pleadge all support to the Punjab Government led by Mr. Barnala in tackling the situation. I also feet that an-all party team must visit Punjab as early as possible to instill confidence in the people and also as a sign of solidarity of the people of this country with the people of Punjab in their hour of trial.

I want to ask three clarifications from the Minister. Firstly, what steps the Central Government have suggested to tackle this immediate problem? Secondly, what steps have been taken to maintain communal harmony in Punjab and elsewhere. Thirdly, whether the Government is prepared to treat any external support to this movement as an unfriendly act and go to the extent of snapping diplomatic relations with those countries which support this movement? Thank you.

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI (Madhya Pradesh): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I do not have the text of the statement that the Minister just made but while listening to him, I noticed two words. He said that yesterday's announcement is a grave thing. He said it is an anti-national act and he also went on to affirm that the Government will not permit any part of the country to be used for secessionist activity.

Sir, there cannot be any disagreement on these points. There can be no disagreement on what the Minister said or the concern that my colleagues have expressed. But I think, it is somewhat disturbing that a handful of people , 150 or so should create a situation which makes the whole Parliament to sit here and discuss, express views and sentiments, pass resolution condemning the same. Sir, so far as we in the Opposition are concerned, we can only condemn but so far as the Home Minister is concerned, I would have been happier if there had been no statement. My friend, Shri Dipin Ghosh said that it is a very rapid and brief statement, only four lines statement. I would have been happier if the only statement was the action that was taken. After yeserday, what has been done to clear those people who have indulged openly in this kind of anti-national activity? That is all. 48 hours have elapsed. In fact, Mr. Deputy Chairman, when yesterday afternoon, a couple of journalists told me that this thing had happened, I had expected that by the evening, something would have been done because the *Lakshman rekha* now at least has been crossed. No one should be surprised for what has happened. Things have been moving inexorably in this direction since the 26th of January, 1986, which means, we have been given notice of three full months that there are people, handful of people, who, without any hesitation, flaunted the so-called Khalistan flag with impunity on the Golden Temple and saw through at least for three months, History will record. What

happens hereafter, I do not know—but for the last three months since January 26, 1986, whose writ runs in the Golden Temple? Not the Barnala Government's, not the Government of India's, not even the SGPC's whose writ used to run earlier at least when Bhindranwale was there. This time, none of them had any control over the Golden Temple and for these three months, they had been doing what they wanted to do and now on the 13th of this month, on Baisakhi day, they said everything, apart from using the word Khalistan. Otherwise, whatever they said amounted to the same thing that they did yesterday. So, it should not be surprising to anyone. But once they firmly did it, I think that the Government of India and the Government of Barnala had no option but to act immediately and if I have really anything substantial to say, it is that—I am saying that the Government of India has not acted and it is still discussing, wanting us to pass resolution condemning as to what has happened yesterday. We can condemn USA for bombing Libya but are we going to condemn these people for declaring Khalistan? It is an absurd situation. But it is a farcical situation in which we have led ourselves to.

Sir, the first and foremost duty of the Government is to govern and in order to govern, the first thing that it must do is to acquire recognition. Now, these people wanted recognition for the Government of Khalistan from the U.N., from America, from Pakistan, from this country and from that country. The unfortunate tragedy of the situation is that Barnala Government and Narasimha Rao's Government does not command the recognition from these people. So, the task before us is to get recognition from these terrorists, the so-called Panthic Committee. Sir, this morning newspapers tell me that these three members of this Panthic Committee namely Mr. Wassam Singh, Mr. Dhana Singh and Mr. Gurbachan Singh Manuchahal, they are proclaimed offenders who are wanted in connection with many murders. I would like the Home Minister to tell us, I would like Mr. Arun Nehru, who is the Minister for Internal Security, to tell us what has been happening about these three people. Have we not been knowing that these people are proclaimed offenders, that they are wanted in murder cases? Why then are we absolutely in impotent passivity? Unless you are able to explain that, merely condemning, merely expressing concern, merely expressing solidarity and unity is pointless.

I can say that yesterday's developments have caused great demoralisation in the people of Punjab, in the administration, in the police of Punjab. And I am sure that these who are indulging in terrorist activities must be feeling encouraged and their morale must have gone up. So, Sir, I have nothing more to add except to say that I expect a supplementary statement from the Home Minister at the earliest that this is the action that they have taken and this is the manner in which these people have been flushed out from the Golden Temple.

SHRI SANKAR PRASAD MITRA (West Bengal): And taken into custody.

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: This is an anti-national act. They must be taken into custody. Mr. Upendra may be hesitant to say what should be done. I should say that the situation today does not require any army action. A minor police action will do. There is no difficulty.

Sir, my specific questions are: what is our information about the number of people inside the Golden Temple and the arms that they possess? My second question is that the tragedy that occurred between 1980 and 1986 has its roots in the Government policy that places of worship are out of bounds for the forces of law and order. Does that policy still persist? This policy has cost the

[Shri Sankar Prasad Mitra]

country very dearly. It has cost the country even its Prime Minister. It has cost the country people like Sant Longowal, apart from hundreds of other people, innocent people, who have been killed. The root cause of it has been this perverse opinion, perverse view, perverse policy that all places of worship, whether it is a gurdwara or a mosque or a temple, are out of bounds for the forces of law and order. Therefore, any murderer, any offender, any criminal can go and make it an asylum, or people can convert it into an arsenal of arms and ammunition. Does this policy still persist? If it did not persist, then there was no reason why these three offenders should not have been arrested by now.

Sir, I would say that today though technically, constitutionally and legally, it is the Barnala Government, the Akali Government which is responsible for all that is happening in Punjab, the fact of the situation is that for quite some time past, and rightly so, the Government of Barnala and the Government of India have been acting in concert So whatever happens in Punjab today is the responsibility equally of the Government of India. Therefore, I would like them to see that this particular situation that has developed yesterday is sorted out at the earliest and before long these persons who have indulged in anti-national activities are punished. Thank you.

SHRI INDRADEEP SINHA (Bihar): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, an act of treason has been committed on a part of our Indian territory. The band of people who have proclaimed themselves to be the "State of Khalistan" may be small in number inside the Golden Temple. But so far as my information goes, at present there are 37 terroristic squads operating in Punjab and committing murder. I disagree with those friends who think that Hindus alone are the targets of these terrorists. Not Hindus alone, Sikhs are also being killed, Akalis are being killed, Congressmen are being killed, a former MLA of my party has been killed; all those who differ from these terrorists are put on their socalled hit list and are killed in a cowardly fashion. But what worries me and my party is the fact that these 37 squads, after all, find some shelter somewhere in Punjab. The political task is to carry on their isolation to that extent so that they are denied shelter anywhere in the world. That is the political task. And my party has always been emphasising this task. My friend, Sardar Darbara Singh, will remember, speaking in this House I had made an offer that my party is prepared to join hands with the ruling party and with all the other secular democratic parties to conduct a joint mass campaign for defending the unity, integrity and independence of the country. It is not a sectional issue. It is not a partisan issue. It is a national issue, an issue which involves the unity and integrity and the very independence of our country. I am happy to report to you that since we had this debate here, a joint movement of all the parties in Punjab has already started on the 29th March, there was a *bundh* inside Punjab and the call was given by all the political parties of the State. Since then efforts are being made to conduct joint campaign by holding joint rallies, taking out joint processions. Unfortunately there are sectarian elements also and whenever any murder or killing takes place, communal forces are active, among Sikhs, also among Hindus, to give a communal colour to a simple situation. In the town of Batala, in Gurdaspur, two rikshaws collided. That small incident was magnified into a communal riot. Hindu Shiv Sena mobilising Hindus from one side, and the Sikh extremists mobilising Sikh peasantry from the villages, to surround the town. Small incidents are magnified into communal holocausts. Communal colour is given to simple incidents. All this has to be boldly faced. Not only the extremists, but

also the communalists are the enemies of the country, the enemies of the unity and integrity of the country. Shiv Sena is also an enemy, all the communal elements are enemies of the country. They have all to be isolated. Without isolating the communalists in one community, it will not be possible to isolate the communalists in the other community. The battle against communialism, the battle against disruption, the battle against treason, has to be carried on unitedly and ruthlessly. I agree with my friends who have pointed out that this declaration by a handful of extremists becomes dangerous in its implications because of the backng they are receving from certain interested foreign powers, particularly Pakistan and countries like USA and Britain, whose Governments take shelter behind democracy and allow terrorist activities to be conducted from their bases. So, the implications are quite dangerous and I quite agree with the honourable Minister that a stern action has to be taken and the mischief has to be nipped in the bud. I would not like at this stage or at this moment in this House to discuss what concrete steps the Government should take. This is not the place and this is not the occasion. I would only say that the Government of Punjab should be fully supported, fully backed up, by the Government of India in taking stern action against these treasonable people. At the political level, through a joint mass campaign, they should be thoroughly isolated. I can tell you, Sir, that the reports we have, show that an overwhelming majority of the people of Punjab including the Sikhs and Hindus do not like these terrorist activities and they have no sympathy for these terrorists. (*Time bell rings*) The terrorists have the support of a very small number of people. But, unfortunately, they have grown and they have flourished on the soil of a certain policy of appeasement. After all, it was nobody else than the then President of the Gurudwara Prabhandhak Committee who brought the Damdami Taksal people inside the Golden Temple in the name of having a joint *Kar Seva*. So, I should suggest that the policy of appeasement must come to an end and the policy of accommodation to communalism, to religious fundamentalism, must come to an end.

Sir, I support the proposal made by Shri Upendra that an all-party parliamentary delegation should visit Punjab, not only Amritsar and Chandigarh, but also the various other places and help in having a united mass movement for mobilising all the secular forces and for isolating the extremists.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please put the question.

SHRI INDRADEEP SINHA: Just a minute, Sir. Only one suggestion I would like to put forward before the honourable Home Minister. In a democracy, the fundamental requirement is that religion should be separated from politics. But, unfortunately, though we have a system of democracy, we have not adhered to this principle and the violation of this principle has gone to such an extent that places of worship have been turned into sanctuaries for all types of criminals and murderers, as Shri Advani pointed out. From now on, Sir, let there be an agreed code of conduct that no place of worship will be allowed for any extra-religious activity and not at all for any criminal activity.

In the end, Sir, I would like to know from the Home Minister, or I would like an assurance from the Home Minister to this House and to the nation, that the Government of India will fully back up the Government of Punjab headed by Shri Barnala in putting down this mischief and that the wording used in the statement that stern action would be taken will be really implemented and speedily implemented. Thank you, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. Virendra Verma.

श्री वीरेन्द्र वर्मा (उत्तर प्रदेश) : डिप्टी चेयरमेन महोदय, देश की अखंडता

और एकता मे विश्वास रखने वाला प्रत्येक व्यक्ति देशद्रोह की इस घोषणा से अत्यन्त ही चिन्तित और दुखी है। माननीय गृह मंत्री जी ने कहा कि भारत भूमि से इस प्रकार की घोषणा को सरकार वर्दाश्त नहीं करेगी। मैं इसका स्वागत करता हूं और उनके स्टेटमेंट का भी स्वागत करता हूं जो 5--6 लाइन का उन्होंने दिया। लेकिन, मान्यवर, यह घोषणा आज नहीं हुई। 26 जनवरी के पुनीत दिन पर जब इन्हीं खालिस्तानियों ने गोल्डन टैम्पिल में घुसकर खालिस्तान के झंडे को फहराया था और आज भी वह वहीं पर फहरा रहा है। हिन्दुस्तान की सरजमीन पर खालिस्तानी नारे लगाये जा सकते हैं, खालिस्तान का झंडा फहराया जा सकता है और चार महीने हो गये उस झंडे को फहराते हुये। संसार के किसी भी देश में--किसी एक देश का नाम हमारे गृह मंत्री जी बताने की कृपा करें कि जिसमें विद्रोह का झंडा इस तरह से टालरेट किया जाता हो? किसी दूसरे देश में खालिस्तानी जैसे नारे लगाये जाते हों और यहां अपने देश की सरकार उसको टालरेट करती रही है क्योंकि हमारे देश की सरकार टालरेशन के आधार पर, शांति और व्यवस्था कायम रखने के आधार पर उसको वर्दाश्त करती चली आ रही है। पंजाब की सरकार के लिये और केन्द्र की सरकार के लिये यह घोषणा एक चुनौती है। किस प्रकार आप इस चुनौती का मुकाबला करेंगे, मुझे नहीं मालूम। मैं समझता हूं कि आप उस समय फेल हुये जब 26 जनवरी को उन्होंने खालिस्तानी फ्लैग फहराया। पंजाब की सरकार उस समय फेल हुई जब सम्पूर्ण सिख समाज ने इकट्ठा हो कर आनन्दपुर साहब में शरबत खालसा के प्लेटफार्म से पूर्ण अधिकार दिया कि कि इन खालिस्तानियों को, इन टेरोरिस्ट्स को और आतंकवादियों को गोलडेन टेम्पुल से बाहर निकाला जाय। न वह निकाल सके और न आप उनकी सहायता कर सके। 16 फरवरी को यह किया गया था और 26 मार्च को मोहल्ला होला में इसी प्रकार जब आनन्दपुर साहब में एक सभा में प्रदेश के मुख्य मंत्री और दूसरे मंत्री गये हुये थे उस समय भी इन आतंकवादियों ने उन पर जानलेवा हमला किया और मुख्य मंत्री जी अपनी जान बचा कर वहां से भागे थे। कैसे बर्दाश्त किया जा रहा है? क्यों वर्दाश्त किया जा रहा है और कितने दिनों तक यह सब आप बर्दाश्त करेंगे? 1982 में इसी प्रकार की अनुचित कार्यवाहियां अकाली दल की तरफ से प्रारम्भ हुयी थीं। भारत सरकार ने बहुत समय तक वर्दाश्त किया। कोशिश की कि समझौते से, सुलह से मामला निपट जाय। आखिर बात बिगड़ती चली गयी और बिगड़ती चली गई और आखिर को 1984 में ब्लू स्टार आपरेशन करना पड़ा। अब क्यों इंतजार कर रहे हैं। जब आप यह जानते है कि पाकिस्तान के आदमी, पाकिस्तान की सरकार इन सिखों को, टेरोरिस्ट्स को ट्रेनिंग दे रही है, हथियार भी दे रहे है और पाकिस्तान के आदमी यहां सैबोटेज करने आ रहे है, इंस्टीगेशन भी कर रहे हैं, हेल्प भी दे रहे है तो भी पंजाब की सरकार न कुछ कर रही है और न आप की सरकार कुछ कर रही है। यह बातें मुझे अत्यन्त दुख और अफसोस के साथ कहना पड़ता है। डिले का एक सबक हमको पहले मिल चुका है और दूसरा सबक भी हमें मिला। मैं बहुत कद्र करता हूं बुजुर्ग लोंगोवाल साहब की। देश के हित में, पंजाब के हित में, पंजाब की जनता के हित में, पंजाब के विकास के हित में उन्होंने प्रधान मंत्री के साथ एक फैसला किया। नतीजा क्या निकला। कहां उनका कत्ल हुआ? एक मंदिर के अन्दर, एक गुरुद्वारे के अन्दर उनका कत्ल हुआ। किसने कत्ल किया? इन्हीं आतंकवादियों ने। न उनको विश्वास है गुरू नानक जी के उपदेशों पर, न उनको विश्वास है गुरू ग्रंथ साहब पर, न उनको विश्वास है गुरूद्वारों की पवित्रता पर। फिर कैसे करें और क्या करें? आप उन्हें बर्दाश्त कर रहे हैं। कितने दिनों तक उन्हें बर्दास्त करेंगे और मान्यवर, अभी श्री आडवाणी जी ने 3 नाम बताये। सभी अखबारों में हैं वे नाम और उनको मैं दोहराना नहीं चाहता। लेकिन उनके सिर पर घोषणा की हुई है इनाम की आप की तरफ से, प्रदेश की सरकार की तरफ से और आप जानते है कि वह गोलडन टेम्पुल में हैं। क्या गोलडेन टेम्पुल में उनकी मौजूदगी, इस तरह के कातिलों की, उसको

पवित्र बना रही है ? क्यों आप इस को टालरेट कर रहे है ? क्यो पंजाब सरकार इसको टालरेट कर रही है ? और नतीजा यही निकलना था इस टालरेशन का जो नतीजा निकला । इसलिये मान्यवर, मै आप से केवल यही गुजारिश करना चाहूंगा कि जो स्थिति आ चुकी है उसमें और आगे बर्दाश्त करने की जरूरत नहीं, न देश के हित में है और न देश की एकता और अख-
2 PM- डता के हित में है । यह चुनौती है दोनों सरकारों को । मैं अपनी पार्टी की ओर से यह विश्वास दिला सकता हूं कि देश की एकता और अखंडता के लिये हमारी पार्टी हर कुरबानी देने के लिये तैयार है । हम हर तरह का सहयोग देकर देश की अखण्डता के लिये आपकी सहायता करेंगे । पंजाब सरकार की सहायता करेंगे लेकिन आप भी तो कुछ करके दिखलाओ । करते कुछ हो नही । सारी प्रोग्रेस और प्रगति का नाश हो गया पंजाब में । इसका असर देश की जनता के ऊपर पड़ रहा है । वैमनस्य आपस में फैल रहा है । इसको मान्यवर, रोकिये । देर मत कीजिये । डिले से पहला सबक आप को मिल गया, दूसरा मिल गया और कितने सबक चाहिये ?

हमारे आडवाणी साहब ने कहा कि मिलिट्री ऐक्शन की जरूरत नही है । उन्होंने कहा सिर्फ पुलिस एक्शन हो सकता है । मैं कहता हूं न तो मिलट्री ऐक्शन की जरूरत है, न पुलिस ऐक्शन की, हमारे पास भी एक गुर है, अगर चाहोगे तो आपको अलग में बता देंगे,लेकिन हमारीप्रार्थना है कि– Be effective. Save the integrity of the country. Save Punjab. Save Sikhs. Save Hindus. Save this country.

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I rise to strongly condemn the dangerous declaration of Khalistan. Sir, the most crued and idiotic joke of the declaration is that they want to unfurl the flag on the Red Fort. If they want to create Khalistan, do they mean to say that they want to conquer India and unfurl the flag on the Red Fort?

Sir, diabolical doctrines, dictums and violence have forged the minds of disgruntled elements. They took away the precious life of Madam Indira Gandhi, our beloved Prime Minister. She laid down her life. Turbulent days were there. Then came the Punjab Accord. It was arrived at by our Hon'ble Prime Minister with Shri Longowal. We heaved a sigh of relief. Immediately afterwards, again we were shocked to hear that Shri Longowal had to lay down his life for his bold decision in arriving at the Accord. Again the Akalis rose to the occasion. The leadership rose to the occasion. The whole nation was hopeful that the problems have been solved. But, Sir, I am sorry to say that according to the recent press reports, the gap between the Hindus and the Sikhs is widening. On the one side, Hindu militancy is growing. They are consolidating their arms. On the other side, Sikh militants are piling up arms. So, this is a very dangerous situation. I would like to know what the Government has done to bring about communal harmony. Of course, you may say that it is the act of a few individuals. But their number is increasing now. Their hands are being strengthened. Why? The extremists are taking the upper hand. What is the reason? I am pained to say that the commitment made by the Government has not been honoured. That may be the reason. Of course, the sentiments of the people of Haryana have to be respected. Why did the Government make a commitment that by 26th of January Chandigarh will be handed over to Punjab? So, this is the point of view of the militants. They say: Don't believe the words of Delhi. They won't honour their commitments. So, the militants... (*Interruptions*) Please listen to me. Why did you make a hasty statement? You made a statement that by 26th January, Chandigarh will be handed over. And bcause you made a statement,

[Shri V. Gopalsamy]

you made a commitment and you do not honour that commitment, this is pointed out by the militants. I am not supporting the militants. (*Interruptions*) Patriotism is not the monopoly of the Congress (I). Patriotism and nationalism is not the monopoly of the Congress(I). (*Interruptions*) You please listen to me. I have condemned the action. I have condemned the declaration, I have condemned the separatist tendency. But, Sir, I say that because you did not honour that commitment, the confidence which was created previously is eroding in the minds of the people of Punjab.

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Correct.

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: And we hear the call of separation even from the North-East. (*Interruptions*) Sir I know, as Mr. Mohanarangam pointed out, it was we in the Dravidian Movement who demanded Dravidasthan previously, before 1962. We suffered the jails. But whole-heartedly we have given up that policy. When the Chinese invaded our country, we have wholeheartedly given up that demand. But, Sir, I find a dangerous tendency in the Central Government recently to bulldoze everything and to centralise everything. Sir, this is a plural society. India, of course, has got all the characteristics of a sub-continent; if has got composite cultures, different religions, different races, different languages and different nationalities. If I strictly speak, the individuality and the originality of the races and the cultures and the languages should be protected and honoured. So.....

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Your time is almost over.

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: I have taken only four or five minutes.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We give only five minutes.

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Sir, this is the time to strengthen the hands of the Punjab Government headed by Mr. Barnala. We should express our solidarity and support to the Barnala Government. That is why my friend, Mr. Dipen Ghosh stated that to weaken the Akalis, you created BhindranWale that is why you created Bhindranwale. That was the charge made by Mr. Dipen Ghosh. That is why we are bound to say: Do not create any divisions, do not create any conditions to weaken the Akali Government. This is the time and the occasion to rise and give all our support and solidarity to the Akali Government. I would also like to know from the hon. Minister what steps he has taken to bring communal harmony which is being tried to be destroyed by the Hindu militants.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Chitta Basu.

SHRI S. W. DHABE (Maharashtra): What about our Group?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Your name is there next.

SHRI CHITTA BASU (West Bengal): Mr Deputy Chairman, Sir... (*Interruptions*) Sir, I am in full agreement with the hon. Home Minister when he states in the statement that the situation in Punjab is grave. I am also in full agreement with him when he says, and says correctly, that no part of our country will be allowed to be utilised by anybody to carry on the secessionist activities against our country. We as the Members of the Parliament are place-bound to defend the unity and integrity of the country. Nobody here is in a position not to work or think in the direction of strengthening the unity and the integrity of the country. We are aware of that. We are aware of our responsibility. But I am sorry if you allow me to say that the statement which has come out in the press in the name of the Panthic Committee should not be brushed

aside lightly because there are several points in the statement which have been published in the press today with as many new dimensions and these dimensions, my party feels, have brought in a qualitative change in the situation and the Government should rise equal to the occasion This is not the time to discuss these things in detail. But the statement issued by the Panthic Committee, whoever they may be, four, five, ten or one hundred fifty, it only reflects a particular way of thinking by a section of our people. It has got many implications and ramifications; ramifications international and ramifictions internal. External ramification is this that they want recognition from certain Governments abroad, the United States of America, the United Kingdom and they have specifically mentioned, they seek the recognition of the United Nations. I think the Home Minister will agree with me, or I do not know whether he knows, but I suppose he knows it, that some time ago a representation was sent to the United Nations in which they have demanded that a particular community in India has not got a sense of security in this country. They wanted to internationalise that issue by that approach. Therefore, it indicates that there are many ramifications and it also reflects a hidden strategy within the country. It is not the time to discuss that thing. But I am sorry to note that the Government on many occasions earlier had admitted the involvement of the foreign powers in this matter. It is obvious because even in Government documents these things are mentioned. Now, in this context, what I feel is that greater attention is to be concentrated on the involvement of the external forces in this matter, particularly on our attitude or stand taken against the United States of America for its blatant aggression on Libya. There has been a great change in the attitude of the Imperialist powers towards our country. Now, I want to know specifically for clarification, so far as our Party's stand is concerned, and our attitude is concerned, it is quite clear that we are second to none in defending the unity and integrity of our country. We are to make sustained efforts to isolate the extremists from the broad Sikh masses. We are to support all efforts made by the Barnala Government in Punjab to meet this situation. And the Congress Party being the largest opposition party there in Punjab Legislative Assembly, will have to review their attitude towards the Barnala Government. It is not the time to pull the rug from the feet of Barnala Government. (*Interruptions*). Yes, even today some of your Members, some of the Congressmen in Punjab have criticised the Barnala Government. (*Interruptions*). You do criticise. Carry on. You continue the way you are doing. (*Interruptions*).

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): You make a statement and you want us to believe it.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: Carry on and be happy.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: Sir, he is again trying to mislead.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: I am not misleading.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You were asking the question, you ask that.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: It is not the time to draw the rug from the fat of the Barnala Government.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL SECURITY (SHRI ARUN NEHRU): Sir, I would like to clarify. Sir, we have stated many a time that we are giving full support to the Barnala Government. But we cannot stop individual Members of the Congress (I) if there is any matter in regard to

[Shri Arun Nehru]

law and order. You do not expect people just to keep quiet. They will behave in the same manner.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: I have simply said. Don't do that.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You don't have to repeat what you said.

SHRI DARBARA SINGH (Punjab): A few days back, one Congress-I MLA was killed. You mean we should remain quiet?

SHRI ARUN NEHRU: At the moment we are supporting them; he is suggesting we should oppose; I am not clear.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: I do not know what made you rise up. I say this should be the approach, there should not be any other approach. It is not merely a question of law and order, it is a political question also and the Government at the Centre and the Government in Punjab taken shape in Punjab today. (*Time* issue. We have to mobilise the entire people of the country, not only of Punjab, not only the Hindus, not only the Sikhs, but the entire people of our country in defence of national unity and integrity, arising out of this particular situation which has taken shape in Punjab today. (Time *bell rings*)

Lastly, what I want to know from the Government is, what specific steps the Government proposes to take in the matter of educating the people in the country regarding the involvement of the foreign powers in these affairs. Does the Government propose to bring out certain documents, some documentary proof, so that we can educate our people that here are the main enemies? We have to isolate them from the broad masses of our country. Would the Government take that kind of approach? Would the Government take some diplomatic offensive against those foreign powers who are creating a situation which is dangerous for our country?

SHRI S. W. DHABE: Sir, if this thing had happened in any other country, the home Minister of that country would have resigned. But I don't think the Home Minister should resign, because he is in temporary charge.

The position is so clear. The statement in the 'Indian Express' says that "The Panthic committee which was set up at the Damdami Taksal sponsored Sarbat Khalsa on January 26, 1986 at the Akal Takht to run the religious and political affairs of the Sikh panth, said the foundation of 'Khalistan' was, in fact, laid down at 4.22 a.m. on June 4, 1984." If this is the position which they have announced, the Government was aware of their intentions of carrying on Khalistan campaign in the State for at least two years. But the Government has taken no steps to clear them off from Punjab or to see that they are isolated from the people. When the Operation Blue Star took place, the Golden Temple was cleared of the extremists and also the arms were seized, nothing was left there. I would like to know from the Home Minister how is it that they have been able to enter Amritsar Temple. One report of the press says that they have got 30 Sten guns and ammunition. Is it not the responsibility of the Home Minister to tell this House —that is my first question—how is it that when the Temple was cleared of the extremists and arms were seized, these people have again entered and the proclaimed offenders have set up their office and have also hoisted their flag? What is the position? How did they enter the Golden Temple and at what time?

Now my second question. It has been stated that declaration was made by a small committee there, and some of them are proclaimed offenders. Is the Government not bound by law to arrest them? Where is the difficulty? Under what law you are prevented

from arresting proclaimed offenders who are staying in the Golden Temple? What action has been taken? Why are the Punjab Government and the Central Government keeping quiet over the matter? Sir, it cannot be said that the matter is not serious, that a handful of people have done this and that there was no need for the Home Minister of the country to make much a do about it. It cannot be said that the Government has become panicky simply because some four or five people have made the statement, that they have said, they will hoist the Khalistan flag on the Red Fort. The fact that the Home Minister of the country has made a statement on this shows that the matter should be taken seriously by both the Houses, this House and the other ouse. I have no doubt about it. All of us are behind the Government in this, in preserving the sovereignty, unity and integrity of the country. But the Government, on its part, should also take steps in this regard. I fully endorse what Mr. Advani has said. Instead of making a statement here, you should take action. You should isolate the extremists. The Punjab Chief Minister has made a very important statement. The Punjab Accord and the subsequent elections have helped, to some extent, in isolating the extremists. Therefore, the question is, why the Punjab Accord has not been implemented fully? Why Chandigarh has not been given to Punjab? Why the territorial issue is allowed to linger on, without any attempt being made to solve it? The delay only gives an opportunity and an excuse to the extremists to say that the moderates have no influence with the Central Government. Sir, as I asked earlier, how many arms are there in the Golden Temple, Amritsar, with the extremists, what is their number and what action the Government propose to take to protect the sovereignty, unity and integrity of the country?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Home Minister please.

SHRI SUSHIL CHAND MOHUNTA: Sir, I have given my name for seeking clarification.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No. It is not possible. It is not permitted.

SHRI GHULAM RASOOL MATTO (Jammu and Kashmir): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir,...

SHRI SUSHIL CHAND MOHUNTA: Sir, the convention in the House has been, any Member can seek clarification.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is true. But it was decided by the Chairman. The list is before me. I cannot agree. The Home Minister please.

SHRI GHULAM RASOOL MATTO: Sir, only half a minute for my party.

SHRI SUSHIL CHAND MOHUNTA: Sir, I seek your protection. I have a right to seek clarification, more particularly because I come from a neighbouring State. *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: When the Leaders of parties met the Chairman and discussed this matter, it was decided that the Leaders of parties will speak. The list was prepared accordingly and I called one by one the names in the list. I cannot agree. I cannot allow anybody else. The Home Minister.

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: Sir, I am thankful to the hon. Members for their speeches. In fact, I agree, there was no need for a statement The statement from the Government on a matter like this should have been in the shape of action.

SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA: Correct.

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: But you don't do actions in Parliament. Actions are elsewhere. It can only be a statement here. I would like to assure hon. Members that we fully

[Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao]

appreciate and share the concern which they have expressed. Government shares it. Yesterday, this became known to us in the evening.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: At what time?

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: In the afternoon.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: At what time in the afternoon?

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: About 5 P.M. (*Interruption*) It is not 48 hours. Sir, the Punjab Chief Minister was here. We were all in a meeting in the Vigyan Bhavan. I am sure, he came to know of it only when we came to know of it. The whole night, he was busy giving orders, instructions. The same night he flew. As we are getting reports, I would like to say that all the concerns expressed by the hon. Members have been taken care of, are being taken care of. There is no question of any complacency in this. It is a grave matter. In fact, we have taken it as a grave matter in spite of the risk of giving a minuscule group a disproportionate importance, we thought it is better to err on this side rather than on the other side. So, I would like to assure the hon. Members that we will keep them informed of what is happening. May be since you wanted the statement right now I made it, I was ready with it. So, I made the statement in as few words as possible and as categorically as I could make it. Now, please bear with me. We know, to some extent there may be a little variation but I could assure you that we know the facts. The law and order authorities know how many are there, how much arms and ammunition are there. Let us depend on them to deal with the situation.

SHRI SUSHIL CHAND MOHUNTA: For how long?

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: As long as it is needed. I would like to remind the Members of the meeting of the National Integration Council in which this very matter was raised by almost every member. There was an appeal to Mr. Barnala. Everyone urged on him to take whatever action is needed and perhaps we have not forgotten his response. He agreed to everything but said that that part of it has to be left to him. And that was the right thing to do. There is no point in our looking over his shoulder every minute. That is why I would like to say that everything is being taken care of, as it ought to be, and we will be in touch with Parliament naturally. We will be actually in touch with what is happening there. My colleague here is feeling restless. I am keeping him here against his wish, in the sense that he has to be elsewhere. So, I would like to inform you that everything is being taken care of and we will keep you informed.

SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN MISHRA (Bihar): Wish you good luck.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We adjourn for 30 minutes. The House stands adjourned up to 3.00 o'clock.

The House then adjourned for lunch at twenty-eight minutes past two of the clock.

3-00 P.M.

The House reassembled after lunch at three minutes past three of the clock, **Mr. Deputy Chairman** in the Chair.